

CLAIMS

What is claimed as invention is:

1. A plant starter pot, comprising:

5 a main body having an upper end with a first opening and a lower end with a second opening, and an exterior surface;

a selectively removable base member having at least one bottom drain hole;

base connection means for connecting said removable base member to said main body.

10 2. The plant starter pot of claim 1, wherein said main body is frusto-conical in shape and defines a frustum, and wherein said base member is generally circular and has a geometric center.

3. The plant starter pot of claim 2, wherein said base member includes a rim having threads disposed on the interior of said rim, and wherein said base connection means comprises  
15 threads disposed on said exterior surface of said main body proximate said lower end and adapted for matable insertion into said rim of said base member.

4. The plant starter pot of claim 3, wherein said base member has at least two drain  
20 holes, at least two of which are spaced substantially equidistant from said geometric center of said base member.

5. The plant starter pot of claim 4, further including a base-removing tool, said base-removing tool comprising a generally planar bar and having first and second studs adapted for insertion in the holes of said base member.

5           6. The plant starter pot of claim 1, wherein said base connection means is selected from the group consisting of bayonet fitting, snap fitting, snaps, and clips.

7. The plant starter pot of claim 1, wherein said base member is integral with said main body and said main body includes a plurality of side-by-side perforations defining a ring  
10 proximate said lower end of said main body, and which when punctured permit said base to be removed from said main body.

8. The plant starter pot of claim 1, wherein main body is polygonal.

15           9. The plant starter pot of claim 8, wherein said main body has at least four sides, said main body having a base-engaging portion proximate said lower end, said base-engaging portion including at least two grooves on opposing sides; and wherein said base member comprises a substantially planar tray having at least two vertically disposed sides with tongues adapted for slidable insertion into the grooves of said base-engaging portion.

20           10. A method of performing an intact transplantation of a plant from a starter pot to

another container and/or ground, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a plant starter pot having a frusto-conical main body having an upper end with a first opening and a lower end with a second opening, an exterior surface, and threads disposed on said exterior surface proximate said lower end; a selectively removable, substantially circular  
5 base member having a geometric center and at least two drain holes equidistant from the geometric center, and further including a rim having interior threads adaptable for matable connection with the threads on the exterior surface of the main body;

connecting the base member to the main body;

filling the main body with soil and/or other nutrient media;

10 growing the plant to a suitable point in its development;

providing a base-removing tool which comprises a generally planar bar having first and second spaced-apart studs adapted for insertion in the holes of the base member;

placing the pot over the base-removing tool so as to insert the studs into the base member  
holes;

15 turning the main body of the starter pot relative to the base member so as to disengage the main body from the base member.